

ALABAMA BAPTIST HISTORICAL SOCIETY

MINUTES

OF THE

TWELFTH ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

NEW RIVER

**BAPTIST ASSOCIATION,**

HELD WITH

PILGRIM REST CHURCH, FAYETTE CO., ALA.,

October the 7th, 8th and 9th Days, 1882.

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OFFICERS :

J. B. FERGUSON, Moderator,  
ZACK SAVAGE, Clerk.

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FAYETTE C. H., ALA :

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1882.



# MINUTES.

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OCTOBER 7TH, 1832.

1. Delegates and messengers assembled in Pilgrim Rest church at the hour appointed last session, and, after religious service by the Moderator, called for letters from the different churches, and appointed Elder J. B. Ferguson and W. B. Melton reading clerks. The letters were then read and the names of delegates enrolled as shown by Statistical Table.

2. The Association then proceeded to elect Moderator and Clerk, which resulted in the choice of Elder J. B. Ferguson, Moderator; Zack Savage, Clerk, and brother A. M. Nuckols, Corresponding Clerk.

3. The Moderator appointed committee on devotion, viz: M. D. Killingsworth, F. M. Couch, and P. M. Newton, with pastor and deacons of Pilgrim Rest Church.

4. On motion, adjourned one hour. Prayer by Elder G. W. Gravalee.

5. Met pursuant to adjournment, and the Moderator offered an opportunity for newly organized churches to join this Association.

6. Then invited visiting ministers, who were not delegates, to seats with us, when Elder A. M. King came forward and was welcomed by the Moderator.

7. The Moderator appointed the following committees: On Documents—Elds. J. B. Huckabee, G. W. Gravalee, brothers F. M. Caine, and W. J. Trull. On Nominations—Brothers W. B. Melton, J. F. Ashcraft, A. M. Nuckols, and Samuel Appling. On Circular Letter—Elds. E. Howel, J. S. Shirley, and brothers M. C. Bowling, and W. F. Kirkland. On Finance—Bros. John Belk, Charles Weeks, and Wm. Blankenship. On Vocal Music—Brothers M. Shira, E. B. Newton, and P. M. Newton. On Education—Bros. A. M. Nuckols, W. A. Edmonds, J. R. Barnett, and G. W. Baker.

8. Called for correspondence from other Associations. North River responded with letter and delegates, Elds. J. E. Cox, A. A. Smith, and brother H. G. Amerson. Yellow Creek with letter, minutes and delegate, E. B. Guin. Letters were read and delegates invited to seats.

9. Suspended regular order of business and returned correspondence: To North River Association, Elders G. W. Gravalee, J. S. Shirley, J. B. Huckabee and J. B. Ferguson, and brothers P. M. Newton, and Wm. A. Edmonds. To Yellow Creek Association, Eld. J. S. Shirley, and brothers M. D. Killingsworth, F. M. Couch, J. A. South, J. S. Hollingsworth, and W. W. Waldrop. From Union Association received no correspondence, and returned none.

Tuscaloosa Association was represented by letter, minutes and delegates, to-wit: Eld. J. M. Chism and brother Jas. White.

10. Returned correspondence Elders J. B. Huckabee, G. W. Gravalee and J. B. Ferguson, and brothers J. R. Barnett, E. B. Newton, and W. B. Melton.

11. Appointed correspondence to State Convention: Elders J. B. Huckabee, J. B. Ferguson, G. W. Gravalee, J. S. Shirley, and brothers J. H. McGuire, F. M. Caine, Samuel Appling, L. C.

Shirley, M. Shira, W. F. Kirkland, Zack Savage, and J. R. Barnett.

12. Read Constitution, Articles of Faith and Rules of Decorum.

13. On motion, the Moderator appointed Eld. J. B. Huckabee and brother A. M. Nuckols to fill vacancies caused by the absence of brothers J. H. Newton and J. D. Thomas of committee on Sabbath Schools.

14. Called for report of Committee on Temperance:

We, your Committee on Temperance, would report that as far as our observation has been intemperance is not on the wane, only where local legislation has had its sway. Therefore, we would recommend that the present session of this Association memorialize the Legislature, at an early day during its present session, to abolish the right of selling or giving away of all intoxicating beverages within the State; and if it cannot pass a law for the State, that the counties of Fayette and Lamar have special legislation in that direction. W. F. KIRKLAND, Ch'n.

15. On motion, the report was unanimously adopted.

16. On motion, a committee was appointed to draft a memorial, viz: Brother J. H. McGuire, Elder J. B. Huckabee, and brother W. B. Melton.

17. On motion, adjourned to 8½ o'clock Monday morning.—Prayer by Elder J. B. Huckabee.

Introductory Sermon was delivered at night, Saturday, by Elder J. S. Shirley, from Luke 16:16,

Services on Sunday, October 9th: Lecture to the Young People at 9 o'clock a. m., by Elder J. B. Ferguson, according to previous appointment, to a large and attentive audience. Elder J. B. Huckabee preached at 11 o'clock from Judges 5th chapter, 23rd verse. Elder J. E. Cox preached at 1 o'clock from Heb. 12th chapter, 23rd verse. Elder J. M. Chism preached at night, from Mathew 5th chap. and 21st verse.

#### MONDAY, OCTOBER 9TH, 1882.

18. Met at the hour appointed and opened by the Moderator reading the 116th Psalm, and prayer by Elder J. E. Cox.

19. On motion, the Moderator appointed a committee of three to draft a petition to the Legislature in reference to the Prohibition question, viz: Elder J. B. Huckabee, brothers Wm. A. Edmonds, and F. M. Caine.

20. On motion, required committee to report immediately afternoon.

21. Called for corresponding letter which was read, as follows: The New River Baptist Association sendeth Christian salutation to those Associations with whom she is in correspondence:

Dear Brethren—We have thus far had a harmonious session, and we hope and pray that our coming together in an Associational capacity may be for the edification of the membership of our churches in the great work of missions, and the necessity of providing for the education of our ministry, for the glory of the Great Shepherd of our souls. We are much encouraged in the work by your correspondence and messengers who are in session with us, and we gladly accept their aid and council. We return

correspondence, as shown in our minutes of this session. The next session of this Association will be held with Philadelphia Church, about twelve miles northeast of Fayette C. H., commencing Saturday before the 2nd Sunday in October, 1883, at which time and place we hope you will meet us by means of correspondence and messengers. And now may the blessings of the Great Head of the church rest upon every institution which has for its object His glory, is our prayer.

A. M. NUCKOLS, Cor. Secretary.

On motion, received and adopted.

22. Called for report of committee on Circular Letter, which was read and adopted, as follows: We, your committee on Circular Letter, would report that there is none presented.

E. HOWELL, Chairman.

23. Called for report of committee on Documents, which was read, as follows: We find the following churches have reported Pastorage salary, viz: Shady Grove, \$40.00; Fayetteville, \$48.00; Oak Ridge, \$17.00; Meadow Branch, \$50.00; Mt. Pleasant, \$20.00. State Missions, Fayetteville \$7.50. Prayer Meetings, Concord 1. For High School: Oak Ridge, \$20.00; Mt. Lebanon, \$109.00; Meadow Branch, \$10.00. As to any other benevolent object, we find nothing. We have correspondence from sister Associations, viz: North River, Yellow Creek, and Tuscaloosa. We also notice in the letters from the churches a marked degree of increased prosperity in many of them; and we would also recommend that the Association put in the field, at once, a Missionary and Colportage for the year. We would recommend the "Alabama Baptist" as a fair exponent of Bible doctrines and general religious information, and would urge the brethren to subscribe for, and read, the same. All of which is respectfully submitted.

J. B. HUCKABEE, Chairman.

On motion, the report was adopted.

24. Appointed brother F. M. Couch on committee on Finance, in absence of brother John Belk.

25. Called for report on Sabbath Schools, which was read, as follows: Your committee on Sabbath Schools report that, it seems from the letters of the churches that the interest in Sabbath Schools is not growing. There are only seven churches, Double Branch, Shady Grove, Fayetteville, Concord, Shepherd, Mt. Pleasant, Pleasant Hill. and one at the school-house near Philadelphia church, reported. Last year, according to the Minutes, there were eight reported. We recommend the churches to take this important matter in hand, and act, for it is certainly one of the greatest instrumentalities in furnishing work for all the members of the church; that each church report the result, without fail, in their next letter to the Association.

Respectfully submitted, J. C. CHAPEL, Chairman.

On motion, the report was adopted.

26. Committee on preaching reported: Preaching at the stand at 10½ o'clock by Elder A. M. King, followed by J. R. Barnett.

27. Called for report of committee on Nominations, which was read and adopted as follows: We, your committee on Nominations, ask to make the following report: That Elder E. Howell preach the Introductory Sermon at the next session of this Association.

ciation; Elder J. B. Huckabee, alternate. Elder G. W. Gravalee to preach at 11 o'clock on Sabbath; Elder J. B. Ferguson, alternate. Brother Zack Savage to write the Circular Letter. Brother J. R. Barnett to deliver a lecture at 9 o'clock Sunday morning, on the subject of Temperance. All of which is respectfully submitted.

W. B. MELTON, Chairman.

28. Called for report of committee on Education, which was read, as follows: Your committee on education beg leave to report that, we are proud to see there is a forward movement being made in our bounds on this all-important subject. The support given to the enterprise set on foot at the last session of this body—that is, the erection of a Baptist Male and Female High School—though feeble, is an advance movement in the right direction and it ought to encourage all who feel an interest in the improvement of the New River Association. We are sorry to say we see no indication of co-operation by our sister Associations, who are solicited to join us in this good work. And, while we feel encouraged and gratified that there are a few churches who have responded to the call of the committee appointed by the last Association to set this noble enterprise on foot, we feel mortified to see that there are so few churches in the Association that are willing to contribute any pecuniary aid, or even to give a word of encouragement. It is as plain as the sun in the heavens, to every close observer of what is passing around him at the present age and at the present stage of advancement in civilization, that the people, of whatever name or order, who are oblivious to the importance of education and thus neglect to develop all that is good in their posterity, and leave the evil to develop itself, must soon dwindle into insignificance and pass into obscurity. "Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it." Look at the condition of the churches in our Association and contrast it with the condition of churches that have an educated membership and ministry, and mark the difference in the activity, life and vigor of the one, and of the inactivity and stupidity of the other. "My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge; because thou hast rejected knowledge I will reject thee, that thou shalt be no priest to me." We close this report by imploring our brethren of the churches of this Association, here assembled, for the mutual good of each church, and of each individual, in a social and religious aspect—especially since we claim as the object of this organization the education and enlightenment of the world on the subject of religion—not to shut their eyes to the fact that we can not enlighten until we are enlightened, neither can we educate until we are educated ourselves; and we can not educate without making sacrifices. And we should take the word Educate in that higher sense, which means to develop all that is good and noble in man. Respectfully submitted,

A. M. NUCKOLS, Chairman.

With this report we would recommend to the brethren of the Association, who have sons and daughters to send to school, the favorable consideration of the Howard, for boys, and the Judson, for girls, both situated at Marion, Ala. A. M. NUCKOLS, Ch'n.

On motion, the report was adopted.

29. Bros. E D Rushing, P M Newton, L C Shirley, excused.

30. On motion, adjourned one hour. Prayer by Elder J. B. Huckabee.

31. The body being called to order by the Moderator, report from committee to draft a memorial to the Legislature on Prohibition was called for, and the committee reported the following, which was read and adopted:

### MEMORIAL OF THE NEW RIVER BAPTIST ASSOCIATION, IN ANNUAL SESSION CONVENED:

To the General Assembly of Alabama; sheweth that, Whereas we, the Ministers, Delegates and Messengers composing the above named Association, and representing the great body of Baptist people in Fayette, and of portions of Lamar, Tuscaloosa, Marion and Walker counties, have long regarded the excessive use of alcoholic beverages as an evil in our country, at once the most prevalent and destructive, and the most demoralizing and degrading, that deters the progress of Christianity and civilization; and

Whereas, we believe it to be our duty, as a great moral agency in this country, and that your Honorable body, as the law making power of the country, to do all that legitimately can be done to correct and destroy so great an enemy to the best interests of society; and to remove so great a curse from our midst, and from among the youth of the land:

We therefore call upon you to consider at an early period of your approaching session the necessity and expediency of such prohibitory legislation as may relieve the State of Alabama of the terrible and alarming curse of intemperance; and if practicable, to remove its manufacture and sale from the entire State, except for medicinal and scientific purposes; and we further ask that should it become impossible, or be deemed inexpedient, to relieve the entire State as above prayed—then we appeal to you for such relief especially in the county of Fayette.

J. B. FERGUSON, Moderator.

ZACK SAVAGE, Clerk.

32. Called for report of committee appointed to draft a petition to the Legislature, and the committee presented a form of petition which was read and adopted.

33. On motion, suspended regular order of business to hear report of committee on High School, which was read and adopted, as follows:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON HIGH SCHOOL.—Your committee on High School, appointed at last annual session, beg leave to submit the following report in pursuance of the order of their said appointment, viz:

Our circumstances have been such as to render it impossible for us, or either of us, to canvass the Association in the interest of our High School enterprise. Hence we have failed to present its claims and its merits and benefits to the people in such way as to elicit their co-operation and support to any very great extent. We have, however, endeavored to present the matter to the Churches through the medium of printed circulars; and by this means we have pretty generally succeeded in directing public

attention to our plans of operation, and have the pleasure to report that, so far as we have been able to ascertain, they have met the hearty approval of our entire denomination.

Our cash subscriptions up to this time, as will more fully appear from Exhibit "A," to this report attached, aggregate near \$1400.00, while yet only three or four of our Churches seem to have taken any definite action in the matter.

We further report that in our opinion this body now has it within its power to insure the triumphant success of this laudable enterprise in the near future, provided only that it take such action at its present session as the necessity of the case demands.

We therefore recommend the appointment of Trustees, not less than seven in number, instead of three, whose powers and duties shall be greater and more definite and obligatory than those of your present committee, so as to insure for the enterprise more definite shape and tangibility, and more certainty and satisfaction with reference to future subscriptions to its capital stock. For instance we deem it advisable, and hereby recommend, that the necessary steps be taken to incorporate said High School under the laws of the State of Alabama, so as to enable the same to purchase, own and control property in its corporate name, and exercise all powers and duties incident to its objects and purposes as private corporations may; that the Association proceed at once to locate the school by a majority vote of the delegates present; and that said Trustees be instructed, that pursuant to the incorporation as above recommended, they open subscription to the capital stock of the school, dividing the same into shares of given amounts, and that they each be required upon accepting the office of Trustee to actively and earnestly go to work in the interest of the School by soliciting subscriptions, and otherwise as they may see fit.

We further report that we have received no pecuniary aid from our sister Associations, the Yellow Creek and North River, which were invited to co-operate, but we are informed that we will yet receive help from one or both of them. All of which is respectfully submitted,

J. H. ECGUIRE, Ch'n. }  
W. B. MELTON, } Committee.  
J. F. HOLLOMAN, }

#### EXHIBIT A. — PRIVATE SUBSCRIPTIONS.

F. M. Caine	\$100 00	J. A. South	\$25 00
H. M. Bell	100 00	J. S. Shirley	25 00
J. H. McGuire	100 00	J. B. Hubkabee	25 00
G. W. Grayalee	100 00	W. B. Melton	25 00
A. M. Nuckols	75 00	E. D. Edmonds	20 00
T. H. Davis	50 00	W. F. Kirkland	20 00
J. C. Yerby	50 00	W. J. Trull	20 00
H. D. Phillips	25 00	Geo. Horne	10 00
T. C. Olive	25 00	F. W. Abbott	10 00
R. H. Jennings	25 00	Caine Newton	10 00
B. M. Stillman	25 00	J. N. Edney	10 00
J. B. Ferguson	25 00	D. A. Kirkland	5 00
G. J. Collins	25 00	J. R. Barnett	5 00
Zack Savage	25 00	J. C. Clappell	2 50
E. B. Newton	25 00		



## CONDITIONAL SUBSCRIPTIONS:

R. H. Jennings. . . . \$200 00 | John Reeves. . . . \$100 00

## CHURCH CONTRIBUTIONS:

Mount Lebanon. . . . \$109 00 | Meadow Branch. . . . \$10 00  
Oak Grove. . . . 20 00 | Shady Grove. . . . 17 00

NOTE.—It will be observed that the subscriptions from Fayetteville Church are in the name of its individual members, as private subscriptions—hence no amount put down for the Church as such. Again; that many other amounts have been promised that are not put down, because of no definite amount being as yet agreed upon by the parties.

34. On motion, the Moderator appointed Board of seven Trustees for High School, viz: J. H. McGuire, W. B. Melton, J. F. Holloman, W. J. Trull, Zack Savage, W. F. Kirkland, and F. M. Caine.

35. Then, on motion, Fayette Court House was selected as the most suitable location for said school. Then, a few minutes was spent in raising subscriptions for said purpose, which resulted in the raising of \$202.50 by subscription.

36. Brother J. A. South was excused.

37. On motion, returned to regular order of business.

38. On motion, excused brother J. H. McGuire.

39. Called for report of committee on superannuated, aged and infirm Ministers, which was read and adopted, as follows: Your committee beg leave to report that no contributions have been turned over to us, except 50c from Union Church, and \$2.50 from Mt. Lebanon Church, which has been turned over to our blind preacher, bro. A. M. King. Your committee beg leave to report to the membership of this body the case of old Father Andrews, who has fought the good fight, who has kept the faith, and is now only waiting for his infirm and much diseased tabernacle of the flesh to crumble, that he may receive his crown. We ask for the worthy Brother a small amount of assistance for the next year.

A. M. NUCKOLS, Chairman.

Then a contribution was made to Elder A. M. King of \$8.25, and \$10.75 to Elder D. W. Andrews. Reappointed same committee, viz: Brothers A. M. Nuckols, E. B. Newton, M. Shira.

40. Called for report on Vocal Music, which was read and adopted, as follows: We, your committee on Vocal Music, beg leave to report there has been considerable improvement in several of the Churches of the New River Association, and most earnestly recommend all of the Churches belonging to this body to encourage this important and delightful part of worship, that each Church may feel the responsibility that rests upon them. We further recommend that each church organize a Choir.—We advise pastors to encourage and solicit teachers to teach schools in the bounds of this Association, that they may learn to sing. Respectfully submitted, M. SHIRA, Chairman.

41. On motion, adjourned to 8½ o'clock Tuesday morning.—Prayer by Elder J. E. Cox.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 10TH, 1883.

Met according to agreement, and opened by the Moderator reading 138th Psalm. Prayer by the Moderator.

42. Called for report of committee on Finance, which was read

and adopted as follows: We, your committee on Finance, beg leave to report for Minute fund, \$28.65; Associational fund \$15.40; total, \$44.05.

W. J. BLANKENSHIP, Chairman.

43. Called for report of 1st. District Meeting; read and adopted, as follows: The meeting of the 1st District to be held with Concord Church, commencing Friday before the 4th Sabbath in September, 1883, Elder G. W. Gravalee to preach the Introductory Sermon; J. R. Barnett, alternate, and the body to spend one hour in criticizing the sermon. 1st. Query—What is the duty of church members to one another? Opened by W. B. Melton, followed by L. C. Shirley. 2nd. Query—What is the duty of church members to their pastors? also, the duty of Pastors to their churches? To be opened by Zack Savage, followed by G. W. Baker.

ZACK SAVAGE, Chairman.

A. M. NUCKOLS, Clerk.

Report of 2nd District Meeting was read and adopted, as follows: Next meeting of the 2nd District to be held with Mount Lebanon Church, 5 miles northwest of Fayette C. H., commencing Friday before the 1st Sabbath in September, 1883, Elder A. M. King to preach the Introductory Sermon, Elder J. B. Ferguson, alternate; Elder W. G. Baker to preach at 11 o'clock Sabbath, Elder W. L. Jones, alternate. Subject for Saturday morning discussion: What is the duty of individual Churches with respect to the Great Commission? To be opened by Wm. A. Edmonds and W. L. Jones. Subject for Saturday evening: What did the Savior mean at his baptism, by saying, "Thus it becometh us to fulfill all righteousness." Opened by brothers P. M. Newton and C. W. Edmonds. The next session of the New River Association to convene with Philadelphia Church, 12 miles east of Fayette C. H.

W. A. EDMONLS, Moderator.

A. J. REEVES, Clerk.

44. Called for report of Executive Board, which was read and adopted, as follows: Your Executive Board submit the following as their report—Amount of fund balance unexpended last year, \$32.08; Nov. 10th, 1881, received of A. M. Nuckols, clerk, \$6.65; J. F. Holloman, Mt. Lebanon, \$4.50; B. M. Stillman, Fayetteville church, \$7.50; Sept. 20th, '82, J. C. Chappell, Shady Grove church, 50c.; total, \$51.23. We agreed to employ brother J. E. Cox, of Walker county, to labor in the bounds of this Association, and wrote him about the same, but he having accepted the Mission work under the State Board before receiving notice from us, failed to accept our arrangement. And then, the wintry weather having set in it was thought best by your committee to defer the employment of a Missionary until summer, and owing to circumstances we failed to procure a Missionary.—We recommend that this Association appoint an Executive Board to take action as this body may direct. We further recommend that, if a Missionary is put in the field that we make him our Colporteur.

ELKANAH B. NEWTON, Chairman.

45. On motion, Elder J. B. Huekabee submitted report of his gratuitous labors during the last Associational year, which was adopted, as follows: To the New River Association, greeting—Dear Brethren: I herewith submit to you a report of my ministerial labors for the Associational year now closing, viz: In

this Association I delivered eleven sermons; and in other Associations, 27 sermons; 11 lectures; during the year made 97 ministerial visits; held family worship 320 times; preached 3 times in Methodist houses of worship; baptized one.

Respectfully submitted, J. B. HUCKABEE.

46. Moderator appointed Executive Board, viz: J. H. McGuire, Zack Savage, W. B. Melton, W. F. Kirkland, and M. C. Bowling.

47. Called for report of Treasurer, which was read and adopted: Received from Finance Committee, for Minute fund, \$19.10; Associational fund, \$16.95; total, \$46.05. Paid R. J. Smith for printing six hundred and fifty copies of the Minutes, \$29.00; Paid H. M. Bell, chairman of Executive Board, \$6.65; Paid Clerk fee, \$10.00; making \$45.65. Several pieces of the coin received were mutilated, and there was one Mexican dollar, is the cause of the deficit. I also received \$7.00 to be paid to the Messengers to State Convention; \$3.00 paid by W. A. Edmonds to be refunded if the Messengers did not go.

Respectfully submitted, A. M. NUCKOLS, Treasurer.

48. Moderator appointed Zack Savage, Treasurer.

49. On motion, the Treasurer was instructed to turn over balance of funds in his hands to the Executive Board.

50. Called for report of brother A. M. Nuckols in reference to his correspondence with Elder J. R. Graves; when he reported that Bro. Graves could not meet the request of the Association.— On motion, the report was received and adopted.

51. Called for miscellaneous business, whereupon the following resolutions were adopted:

1st. Resolved, That the Clerk be instructed to have as many Minutes printed as the minute fund will pay for, embodying Constitution, Articles of Faith, and Rules of Decorum; that he receive of the Associational fund \$10.00 for his services, and turn remainder over to the Executive Board to be added to the missionary fund, and deposit Minutes with brother H. M. Bell, when printed, for distribution.

E. B. NEWTON.

2nd. Resolved, That this body tender its thanks to Pilgrims Rest Church and vicinity, for their kind hospitality shown during its stay with them.

W. B. MELTON.

3rd. Resolved, That the Clerk cause to be printed 50 or more copies of the petition to the Legislature, on legal cap, with columns as follows: Left hand for white males, middle for white females, right hand for colored males and female, assigners.

F. M. CAINE.

52. On motion, adjourned to 2 o'clock p. m. Prayer by brother J. R. Barnett.

2 O'CLOCK P. M.—Called to order by the Moderator.

4th. Resolved, That the Introductory Sermon be delivered before the Association at 2 o'clock p. m. on Saturday.

5th. Resolved, That we recind the resolution of last session relating to order of business.

J. B. HUCKABEE.

53. On motion, read and corrected Minutes.

54. On motion, adjourned to meet with Philadelphia Church, 12 miles east of Fayette C. H., Saturday before the 2nd Sabbath in October, 1883.

J. B. FERGUSON, Moderator.

ZACK SAVAGE, Clerk.

## CONSTITUTION.

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Art. 1st. This Association shall be composed of members chosen by the different Churches in our union, who on producing their letters, shall take their seats.

Art. 2nd. This Association shall be known by the name of the New River Baptist Association, which shall have the privilege to enact and carry out missionary purposes in all their bearings; yet so as that churches and individual members are left free, and that giving or withholding shall not be a bar to fellowship.

Art. 3rd. To give churches the best advice she can in all matters of difficulty; and if the union be broken between any of the sister churches, to enquire into the cause of the breach, and use her best endeavors to remove the difficulty; but if the breach cannot be repaired, to withdraw from any church or churches which she may look upon as being unsound in principle or immoral in practice, until the same can be reclaimed.

Art. 4. The churches in our union shall transmit to every annual session of the Association a written communication specifying the names of their delegates, their number in fellowship, baptized, received by letter, restored, dismissed excommunicated and deceased since the last session, and each church shall also report to each annual session of the Association the state of their Sabbath schools and prayer meetings, and the number of ordained ministers and licensed preachers, with their postoffice, which shall be read and minuted accordingly.

Art. 5. Every church in our Union shall be entitled to representation in the following manner: Each church shall be entitled to send three delegates and no more. Any church failing to represent herself as above prescribed, shall state her reasons at the next session.

Art. 6. The Association thus formed, a majority of the members present shall choose, by ballot, a Moderator and Clerk, who shall serve one year.

Art. 7. Churches may be admitted into this Union, who petition by letter and delegates; and, upon examination, if found orthodox and orderly, shall be received by the Association, which shall be manifested by the Moderator's giving the right hand of fellowship.

Art. 8. Every query sent up to the Association by any church in the union, shall be read and put to a vote by the Moderator whether it shall be debated; and if there be a majority for it, it shall be taken up and investigated; but if not, it shall be withdrawn, provided always that those be first considered which affect the union of the churches.

Art. 9. Voting shall be confined exclusively to the body in all acts respecting their internal concerns.

Art. 10. The Association shall not adjourn any session until she shall have finished all business on hand, except in extraordinary cases.

Art. 11. The minutes of the Association shall be read and corrected, if necessary, and signed by the Moderator and Clerk, before the session rises.

Art. 12. The Association shall, in all cases, be governed by a majority of the members present.

Art. 13. Amendments to this Constitution may be made at any session of the Association, when a majority of its members present shall deem it necessary.

## **Articles of Faith.**

1. We believe there is one only living and true God; and three persons in the Godhead: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, and that these three are one.

2. We believe the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are the Word of God, and the only rule of faith and practice.

3. We believe in the doctrine of human depravity, that it disables man from keeping the Law for life; and that man's recovery and final salvation depends entirely upon the provision which Christ has made, and offered, upon the condition of faith.

4. We believe in the doctrine of election, through sanctification of the Spirit, and belief of Truth.

5. We believe that sinners are justified in the sight of God, only by the merits of Jesus Christ.

6. We believe that saints shall persevere in grace, and not one of them shall finally fall away.

7. We believe in the resurrection of the dead and general judgment, and that the joys of the righteous and the punishment of the wicked will be eternal.

*As for Gospel Order:* 1st. We believe that the visible church of Christ is a congregation of baptized believers, who have gained Christian fellowship with each other, and have given themselves up to the Lord, and one another, and have agreed to keep up a Godly discipline according to the rules of the Gospel.

2. We believe that Jesus Christ is the great head of the church and only law-giver, and that the government is with the body, and is the privilege of each individual; and that the discipline of the church is intended for the reclaiming of the christian who may be disorderly either in principle or practice, and must be faithfully kept up for God's glory and unity of the churches.

3. We believe that Baptism and the Lord's Supper are ordinances of Jesus Christ, and that true believers are the only proper subjects, and conscientiously do believe the true mode of baptism is immersion.

4. We believe that none have the right to administer the ordinances but ministers of the Gospel, regularly ordained to that office.

5. We believe that none but those regularly baptized have a right to participate in the Lord's Supper.

## **RULES OF DECORUM**

1. The Association shall be opened and closed by prayer.

2. To expedite business, committees may be appointed, at the discretion of the Association.

3. The Moderator shall be deemed judge of order and shall have a right to call to order at any time; and any brother not

satisfied with his decision on any point of order, may appeal to the Association, on the same day, but at no other time.

4. Every motion made and seconded, shall come under the consideration of the Association, except withdrawn by him who made it.

5. Every case taken up by the Association shall be decided or withdrawn before another shall be offered.

6. Every person who shall speak in debate shall rise from his seat and address the Moderator, and shall not be interrupted while speaking, unless he depart from the subject, or use words of personal reflection.

7. The Moderator, when addressed for leave to speak shall signify the right of the applicant by naming him or otherwise.

8. No person shall speak more than twice on the same subject without leave of the Association.

9. No member shall be tolerated in any practice which tends to interrupt public speaking.

10. Any member wishing to retire, shall obtain permission of the Moderator.

11. The Moderator shall give the casting vote, and shall be entitled to the same privilege of speaking as any other member, provided he appoint another to his seat during the time.

12. The appellation of Brother shall be used in our address, one to another.

13. The names of Delegates shall be called as often as the Association may direct.

14. Any member violating the above Rules, may be reprovod as the Association thinks proper; only on the day the offence shall have occurred.

# STATISTICAL TABLE OF THE NEW RIVER BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.

## NAMES OF DELEGATES.

W F Kirkland, J C Chappel, J R Hall,  
 D A Kirkland, J A South, D G Kirkland,  
 Eld G W Gravalee, Zack Savage, J T Stokes,  
 G W Horn, C J Walden,  
 G W Ashcraft,  
 A M Nuckols, J H McGuire,  
 Eld D W Andrews, A M Smith, W C Marasco,  
 L C Shirley, W B Melton,  
 John Belk, M. J Wright,  
 Jackson Brown,  
 S A Winter, Joseph Wheat,  
 W W Waldrop, W J Trull, W C Waldrop,  
 J R Barnett, J W Watkins,  
 2nd District.  
 E B Newton, W H Brashier, E B Newton, jr.,  
 F M Caine, E D Rushing, Samuel Applling,  
 C M Weeks, J W Berryhill, A Gann,  
 J E Mills, A T Webb,  
 Eld J B Huckabee, M C Bowling, F M Couch,  
 M Shira, Wm Blankenship, M D Killingsworth,  
 J S Shirley, W A Edmunds,  
 J S Hollingsworth, J M Wallace,  
 Elder J B Ferguson, P M Newton.

CHURCHES.	PASTORS.	POST OFFICE.
Shady Grove,	J B Ferguson,	Bucksport, Ala.
Mt. Pleasant,	G W Gravalee,	Newtonville,
Shepherd,	J M Chism,	Palmetto,
Pilgrims Rest,	G W Gravalee,	Newtonville,
Chapel Hill,	J M Chism,	Palmetto,
Fayetteville,	D W Andrews,	Fayette C. H.
Rocky Mount,	"	Fayette C. H.
Concord,	J M Chism,	Palmetto,
Oak Ridge,	E Howell,	
Double Branches,		
Friendship,	W J Miller,	North River,
Meadow Branch,	J M Chism,	Palmetto,
Arbor Springs,	W J Miller,	North River,
2nd Dist.		
Pleasant Hill,	N J Dyer,	Wayside,
Mt Lebanon,	G W Gravalee,	Newtonville,
Oak Grove,	W J Kirk,	Ur, Marion co.
Hopewell,		
Harmony Grove,	J H Hendon,	Paló,
Mt. Joy,	N J Dyer,	Wayside.
Mt. Olive,	"	Wayside,
Union,	W G Baker,	Handy,
Philadelphia,	"	Handy,

CHURCHES.	CHURCH CLERKS.	POST OFFICE.	Total Fund.....	Asso's Fund.....	Minute Fund.	Total Member's	Deceased.....	Restored.....	Excluded.....	Dismissed by L.	Rec'd by Letter.	Baptised.....	Monthly Meetings
Shady Grove, Mount Pleasant, 1 Shepherd, Pilgrims Rest, Chappel Hill, Fayetteville, 1 Rocky Mount, Concord, 1 Oak Ridge, Double Branches, Friendship, Meadow Branch, 1 Abor Springs,	W F Kirkland, J A South, J D Thomas, W I Yerby, J F Ashcraft, H M Bell, A M Smith, W B Melton, J F Holloman, J M Daffron, J P Watson, W J Trull, J H Falls,	Garfield, Fayette C. H., Newtonville, Pilgrim, Cave Springs, Fayette C. H., " Ridge, Newtonville, Lumbub, Binion Creek, Auro, North River,	2 00 1 75 2 50 2 00 2 00 4 50 8 50 3 00 2 00 60 2 00 2 10 1 25	50 50 50 50 75 75 85 85 1 55 20 50 60 25	50 1 25 2 00 50 50 25 1 00 2 00 1 00 40 50 50 25	1 50 2 00 1 00 1 00 1 00 1 00 1 00 1 00 1 00 1 00 1 00 1 00 1 00	43 1 50 88 2 60 33 75 34 1 00 109 1 50 68 1 50 84 1 50 45 1 00 46 1 50	1 2 1 2 1 2 1 2 1 2 1 2 1 2 1 2 1 2 1 2 1 2 1 2 1 2	8 7 5 7 5 7 5 4 1 4 1 4 1 4 1 4 1 4 1 4 1 4 1 4 1 4 1	5 6 6 5 5 3 1 3	21 2 3 3 1 1 2 2 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3	2 3 3 3 3 1 1 2 2 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3	
Pleasant Hill, Mount Lebanon, Oak Grove, Hopewell, Harmony Grove, Mount Joy, Mount Olive, 1 Union, 1 Philadelphia,	E B Newton, J W Dodson, W A Weeks, W T Webb, J L McFaha, M D Killingsworth, Wm Lewis, J S Holingsworth, P M Newton,	Fayette C. H., " Ur, Marion co., Glen Allen, Fato, Mt. Calm, Fayette C. H., New River, Handy,	2 00 1 75 2 50 2 00 2 00 4 50 8 50 3 00 2 00 60 2 00 2 10 1 25	50 50 50 50 75 75 85 85 1 55 20 50 60 25	50 1 25 2 00 50 50 25 1 00 2 00 1 00 40 50 50 25	1 50 2 00 1 00 1 00 1 00 1 00 1 00 1 00 1 00 1 00 1 00 1 00 1 00	43 1 50 88 2 60 33 75 34 1 00 109 1 50 68 1 50 84 1 50 45 1 00 46 1 50	1 2 1 2 1 2 1 2 1 2 1 2 1 2 1 2 1 2 1 2 1 2 1 2 1 2	8 7 5 7 5 7 5 4 1 4 1 4 1 4 1 4 1 4 1 4 1 4 1 4 1 4 1	5 6 6 5 5 3 1 3	21 2 3 3 1 1 2 2 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3	2 3 3 3 3 1 1 2 2 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3	





